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no 4

Vol. III, No. 4.

APRIL 1914.

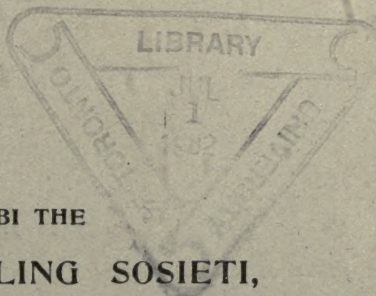
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THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

KONTENTS.

Reezonz for our Faith (Mis Burstall).—Yuniti within the Empier.—
A Leter from Canada.—English and the Foriner (A. Meff).—The
Pronunsiaishon ov O.S. "or, oar, ore, our."—James Alderson (W. H.
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Revyu.—Korespondens.—Noets and Nyuz.—Pres Kutingz.—Editorial
Noet.



PUBLISHT BI THE
SIMPLIFIED SPELING SOSIETI,
44 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

The Traid supplid bi
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TU MEMBERZ.

THRU a printerz' eror the membership ov the S.S.S. iz shoen in this isyu az 9231, the korekt number iz 2301. But we aim at the larjer figyur and regard it az profetik. The membership ov the Sosieti haz groen from 430 tu 2301 at the prezent dait. It iz sujested that memberz shood riet out, sien, and send the foloing leter tu thair loekal paiperz and so inishiait a grait pres kampain thruout the kuntri.

"I see from the kurent number ov the *Pioneer*, the organ ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti, that the membership haz groen in litl mor than tuu yeerz from 430 tu 2301. This, tu me, iz signifkant ov an inkrees in publik interest in the wurk ov speling reformerz. It iz estimaited that the British chield haz tu spend 2320 ourz in lurning tu reed and riet with the eez and akyurasi the German chield atainz in 1300 ourz. A thouzand ourz iz rufli a skuul yeer, so we ar giving tu our keenest kompetitorz a start ov mor than a yeer in the rais ov lief. Multiplie this yeer ov los bi the number ov children in the skuulz ov Britain and the toetal los ov tiem iz tremendus. When such eminent men ov leterz az Profeser Gilbert Murray, The Rev. Profeser W. Emery Barnes, The Riet On. Lord Bryce, Vies-Chaanselor Michael Sadler, Mr. H. G. Wells, Mr. William Archer, and Profeser Walter Rippmann ar ofiserz ov the Sosieti, thair iz litl room for ridikyul. Yur reederz kan obtain free literatyur bi sending a poest kard tu the Sekretari, S.S.S., 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C."

MEMBERS

THE MEMBERS OF THE

THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

VOL. III, No. 4.

APRIL 1914.

REEZONZ FOR OUR FAITH.

An Adres bi Mis BURSTALL, M.A.,
Hed Mistres ov the Manchester Hie Skuul for Gurlz.*

WE mai kount ourselvz fortyunait in having had so enkuriying a mesij from Lord Bryce when he gavi the adres which oepend this Konferens. He sed that the frendz hu dezier tu simplifie the speling ov English had a long and ardyuus taask befur them, but thai wood sukseed bekauz reezon woz on thair sied.

Reezon iz on our sied. I am not going tu trie tu pruuv that English speling iz irashonal. We hav kum tu this staj that peepl rejois in its irashonaliti. We teecherz in thinking ov this kwestion ov irashonaliti must aulwaiz hav in our miendz the chield. We noe so wel we ar duing rong in teeching children tu spel az speling iz nou, and that iz whi we ar talking up the wurk ov this Sosieti. I hav had just the saim ekspeeriens Sur William Ramsay haz spoeken ov—lurning everi wurd bi siet az if it wer Chinese. We hav had tu duu injustis tu our oen instinkts and tu the instinkts ov reezon. We kan not goe on duing that. We kan not be satisfied tu teeche children tu think in everi uther lesen, and in the speling lesen tu aask them tu poot thoez pouerz ov reezon on wun sied.

Speling reform iz aulso kuming from that grait fors which iz destind tu duu so much—laibor. The wurking man iz demaanding a beter edyukaishon for himself and hiz children. When laibor fiendz out that the tiem, the preshus skuul tiem, ov the children iz being waisted bi this ridikyulus English speling, thair will be another strong fors for reform. Thair iz another fors—the grait demokratik fors which wil protest against this abominabl waist ov skuul tiem ov our children. In the North ov England the foeek huuz skuul tiem iz skanti ar ankshus tu maik the best ov it. I hoep thai wil suun demaand sumthing ov this reform.

I wood just noet whot I mieself kaul the impeerial argyument, the argyument for reformd speling, in order tu maik English a yunivursal tung. It iz the argyument which pursonali konvurted me, the argyument ov the paitriot, that we thus help tu duu so much for our oen muther tung. Lord Bryce, yu wil remember, poot the mater veri simpli. He sed, “Speling reform iz a biznes propozishon.” A biznes propozishon it iz and we intend tu duu our best tu maik it a real wun.

The forsez against us ar pouerful and the wurk ov our Sosieti aut tu be tu konsider whot we aut tu duu tu meet this difikulti. We hav atakt the irashonal English speling. We must aulso deel with the irashonal English prejoodis. The furst objekshon iz, “Duu yu ekspekt that English wil ever be printed az in THE PIONEER?” I sai that, at aul events, it iz a bails for diskushon. Our sistem iz not az yet purfekt and kompleet—it iz a bails for diskushon. Az wun goez on tu deel with peepl wun diskuverz everiwhair a haitred ov chainj. In this mater “everi litl boi and gurl that’s born intu this wurld aliev” iz aulwaiz a litl konsurvativ. And mor so iz the groen-up purson, I obzurv, among the kultivaited klaasez. The opozishon we hav tu fais iz the opozishon ov the kultivaited and the edyukaited klaasez. Thai hav nothing tu gain bi it. Thair children

* Deliverd at the S.S.S. Anyual Meeting, at the London Yunivursiti.

kan aford tu spend a good amount ov tiem at skuul. Tu them the langwij iz larjli reeding. The averij purson speeks a litl but duz not reed veri much. The kultivated purson livz veri larjli thru reeding and in printed langwij, and eni chainj iz difikult tu him. In this koneksjon naimz liek that ov Sur William Ramsay, Sur James Murray, and Prof. Gilbert Murray, ar ov such veri grait valyu. In the paast we had not the grait fortyun ov gaining such adheerents. But it iz a veri real difikulti—the difikulti ov the kultivated purson. We ar a sielent naishon. We doent tauk veri much, we doent enjoi oratori liek the Irishman, or the draama liek the Elizabethan, or the resietal ov poëtri liek the ainshent Greek. We regard the langwij not az a thing spoeken, but az a thing riten.

Kultivated pursonz yuz the etimolojikaj argyument. The wurd “shivalri” haz asoesiaishonz with the French and Latin—if the wurd iz alulterd, it luuzez its asoesiaishonz, thai sai. The asoesiaishonz ar not with the sound but with the look ov the wurd. When thai sai etimoloji, thai doent meen that at aul, thai meen a mas ov asoesiaishonz in thair oen miendz that kling around the *look* ov that wurd.

Another objekshon iz: “O, yu ar spoiling the langwij!” But the struktyur and the gramar ov it wood remain just the saim—oenli the wai ov pooting it down wood be alulterd. We must emfasiez the fakt that langwij iz a spoeken thing and we shal be helpt bi the revieual ov the draama and the foek plai. The vairius meenz ov outwerd ekspreshonz and foek daansez aul help tordz the langwij spoeken az a natyural ekspreshon ov the spirit ov man.

Dr. Bridges, the Poët Laureat, noez that langwij iz not a thing printed in a book, but sumthing which iz sung, which haz a myuzik and byuti ov its oen. And indeed we kan not prezurv the byuti ov our English speech unles we impruvv the speling. Dr. Bridges noez veri wel that thair iz no wai ov stoping the vulgariezing ov the ordinari sluvenci speech ekssept bi speling reform. We ar luuzing the refend soundz ov our English. The argyument that with an impruvvment in speling we shal hav an impruvvment in speech iz wun ov the strongest argyuments our Siosieti kan poot forward.

In konkluuzhon let me kum tu the praktikal. Whot ar we going, tu duu besiedz the kontinyuans ov that moest yusful propaganda tu which our Sekretari haz refurd? Whotever be the weeknesez ov the Simplified Speling Siosieti's skeem, we aut tu lurn it and aut tu yuz it. If I riet a leter in the oeld fashond speling I feel ashaidd ov mieself. Direktli we begin tu yuz the nyu speling we fiend that we hav tu studi hou we speek. We fiend hou veri imkompleet our fonetik training haz been. Let us yuz the skeem mor. The prinsipl iz, I am konvinst, a sound wun—the prinsipl ov rekwiering no nyu leterz and ov turning awai from the wunderful fonetik alfabet, which tu moest peepl iz a teribl monster. Let us trie tu giv sum konsideraishon tu the look ov the thing, and, if we maik an aulteraishon, keep tu the saim looking thing. We mai hav tu konseed a litl tu the weeker brethren.

We aut tu aim at maiking the Siosieti so strong that we kood goe tu the Bord ov Edyukaishon and sai: “Maik this sistem permisiv; alou ofishal korespondens with the Bord tu be sent up in simplified speling; instrukt Inspektorz that thai shood not kondem the yus ov simplified speling in skuulz.” If we kan get that permishon, the teecheerz kan begin tu akt direktli. When thai begin tu akt in the skuulz the plan wood kum in sloeli. At prezent I duu simplified speling with the Seenor Siksth, aiteen tu nienteen yeezr, and going on tu kolej. But I dair not duu it eniwhair els. Let us goe forward. Lord Bryce sez we shal not liv tu see the reform fuli karid intu praktis. But we mai be kontent tu hav dun a litl tu prezurv and pyurifie our beloved muther tung, tu oepen the storhous ov its literatur mor wiedli tu the mas ov the peepl, and tu haisen the dai when our muther tung shal bekum, whot its oen histori and the acheevments ov the English speeking peepl merit, the yunivursal langwij ov the federaishon ov mankiend.

AUL mi prejoondisez ar against Simplified Speling, and aul mi konvikshonz ar in faivor ov it.—RICHARD WATSON GILDER.

YUNITI WITHIN THE EMPIER.

WE komend tu our reederz the book, *An Englishman looks at the World*, reesentli publisht bi Mr. H. G. Wells, hu haz shoen hiz interest in our muuvment bi bekuming a Vies-Prezident ov the S.S.S. This book kontainz a vigorous apeel for yuniti ov thaut and spirit and langwij thruout the British Empier :

"Nou I am not rieting this in eni vaig retorikal wai ; I meen spesifikali that our Empier haz tu bekum the meedium ov nolej and thaut tu everi intelijent purson in it, or that it iz bound tu goe tu peesez. It haz no eekonomik, no militari, no raishal, no relijus yuniti. Its oenli konseevabl yuniti iz a yuniti ov lángwij and purpos and outlook. If it iz not held tugether bi thaut and spirit it kan not be held together. No uther sement egzists that kan hoeld it tugether indefinitli.

"Not oenli English literatyur, but aul uther literatyurz wel translaited intu English, and aul siëns and filosofi, hav tu be braut within the reech ov everiwun kaipabl ov availing himself ov such reeding. And this must be dun, not bi prievait enterpriez or for gain, but az an Impeerial funkshon. Whairever the Empier ekstendz, thair its prezens must signifie aul that bredth ov thaut and outlook no loekaliezd lief kan supplie."

The syupreem importans ov Simplified Speling az a meenz tordz yuniti within our Empier haz been konstantli urjd in the pajez ov THE PIONEER. It haz been treeted konsiesli in pamflet A 4 jsyud bi the Sosieti—riet for kopiz tu the Sekretari.

A LETER FROM CANADA.

DEER SUR,—I hav been much interested reesentli tu reed in several "oeld-kuntri" nyuspaiperz the pronounsments ov Sur William Ramsay and utherz on the mater ov Speling Reform. Profeshonali, aulso, I shood be glad tu noe mor ov the aimz and idealez ov yur Sosieti in that, tho mi main subjekt iz mathe-matiks, at prezent I kondukt a klaas in English in which, for speshal reezonz, speling haz bekum a subjekt ov spëshal prominens in the kurikyulum. The memberz ov mi klaas ar draun from meni wiedli separait parts ov America and Europe. Thair ar Eastern Canadians, New Englanders, representativz from the Western and Southern American Staits, besiedz a sprinkling ov English, Irish, and Scotch. Denmark, Germany, Holland, and Sweden, aulso, eech kontribyuts a delegait. I beleev in this klaas I hav at hand raather a yuneek feeld for studi ov sum ov the kwestionz mooted in the kontroversi. Such aulturnativz az "program, programme," "thoro, thorough," "through, thru," "receit, receipt"; substantiv-ending -or, -our; az wel az dyuplikaited konsonants in derivaishonz, e.g. "traveler, traveller"; aul theez freekwentli provied points for debait and dikshonari referens, in which, indeed, polietnes sumtiemz givz wai tu peekansi, and a patriotik spirit, jelus, it wood apeer, ov nashonal

enlietement, givz an interest tu whot, in mi oen skuul daiz, woz raather a teedius and arid subjekt.

Breethz thair a man hu kan satisfaktorili setl "wilful, willful, wilfull"?

It mai interest yu tu noe that in Western Canada thair iz evidens, plentiful and painful, ov, in sum mezher, a retrogreshon tu Elizabethan tiemz when eech pen woz a lau untu itself.

Tuu men ov the klaas hav been deetaild of on fateeg dyuti. Thai kaul themselves skruutineerz ov publik poesterz. The proeseedz I fiend veri yusful for klaas wurk. The loekal Pres, tuu, shoez such a hoelsum disregard ov the konvenshonal orthografi az wood aulmoest warant the presumshon that speling, in this part ov the wurd, iz undergoing auto-reform, a proeses sumwhot analogous tu molekular atrishon.

I kan ashuur yu that eni literatyur yu mai send wil be thuroeli apreeshiaited bi us aul.—Thanking yu in antisipaishon, yurz sinseerli,

Technical School, Syndicate Avenue,
Edmonton, Alba., Canada.

JAMES L. WARD.

ENGLISH AND THE FORINER.

By A. MEFF, M.A. (Technische Hochschule, Karlsruhe).

AFTER neerli ten yeerz' ekspeeriens in teeching forinerz English I hav kum tu realiz hou grait an obstakl our speling presents tu thoez hu hav not groen up akustomd tu it. We English peepl hav been so long akustomd tu spel rongli or unfonetikali that it iz difikult for us tu spel rietli or fonetikali. But tu a Russian or a Spaniard the konekshon between our pronunsiashon and our speling ov such wurdz az "dough, sew, sword, colonel," etc., iz not bi eni meenz obvius. Wun heerz from forinerz grait prais ov our admirabli simpl gramar kupld with a korespondingli strong disprais ov our arbitrari and thairfor difikult pronunsiashon. Wun heerz the remark again and again repeated: "O, yes! English iz eezi—eksept the pronunsiashon." But it iz not the pronunsiashon (eksept perhaps the *th* sound) that iz difikult, but the orthografi that haz lost tuch with the soundz reprezented. With a fonetik speling the langwij wood be enormusli simplified.

Another aspekt ov the kwestion iz this. An internashonal langwij or *Verkehrsmittel* iz an urjent need ov the prezent aij. "O," yu sai, "thair'z Esperanto." No dout Esperanto iz a meritorius atemt tu provied such an instrooment. It haz the grait advaantij ov being nyutral—that iz, it duz not eksiet nashonal jelusi. But it wil be tiem tu speek ov Esperanto az the wurd langwij when it iz spoeken bi 160,000,000 in aul parts ov the wurd az iz nou the kais with English. At prezent three langwijez mai klaim tu be kauld internashonal—English, French, and German. English iz spoeken bi about 160,000,000, French bi 45,000,000, and German bi about 85,000,000. Baring sum enthyusiastik Pan-Germanists, no wun seeriusli poots forwerd German az the wurd-langwij. If eni living langwij iz adopted az internashonal it wil be iether English or French. But the eezines ov French, liek the report ov Mark Twain'z deth, iz "graitli egzajeraited," and iz held oenli bi thoez that hav akwierd the yuzhyual smatering ov skuul French, and no mor. The gramar ov English iz much eezier than that ov French. The oenli advaantij ov French iz its *yuniformal* pronunsiashon. Eeven so patriotic a German az Jacob Grimm, the grait filolojist, sed in an oft kwoeted pasij that English iz, ov aul modern langwijez, the moest praktikal instrooment. This iz grait prais, but the prais wood be stil graitier if this praktikal instrooment wer aulso fonetik. Befor such a praktikal, eezili akwierd instrooment eeven nashonal jelusi wood not stand in the wai; for peepl wil adopt whot thai fiend redi tu thair hand. No diplomat thinks it a reflekshon on hiz nashonal *amour propre* tu yuz French. Everi Berlitz skuul aul oever the wurd iz an advokait ov English az the Internashonal Tung. Everi English and American tuurist iz a pioneer ov the langwij. If thair iz tu be eni aknoledjd wurd langwij it wil be English. But not the English ov tu-dai; no, but the English with a reformd speling. That iz the *sine qua non* tu atain this grait iedal.

I LOOK upon the establisht sistem (ov speling), if an aksidental kustom mai be so kauld, az a mas ov anomaliz, the grooth ov ignorans and chaans, eekwali repugnant tu good taist and komon sens.—BISHOP THIRLWALL.

THE PRONUNSIASHON OV O.S. "OR, OAR, ORE, OUR."

MR. S. A. WILLMOTT, ov 3 Mexfield Road, Putney, riets :—The kontribyushon tu this subjekt in yur laast munth's isyu luuzez siet ov the prinsipal point at isyu, bi referensez tu gliedz or sekond vouelz and inkompleet prezentashon ov the treatment bi the authoritiz kwoeted. It iz not a kwestion ov glied or no glied, but ov kwoliti ov the main vouelz. We kan klarifie the mater bi ading *-ed* or *-s* (= *z*) tu the *-ore*, *-oar* wurdz, which maiks them *-or* + konsonant wurdz, and redyusez the glied vanish or sekond vouel, if eni, tu a minimum. We shal then hav, for egzaampl, "bored, board, ford" rieming together strictli, and "lord, laud" rieming together. But duz "board" riem with "laud"? "Pores, pours, boars, roars" riem egzactli, but duu thai riem faultlesli with "pause, paws, saws"? Iz the vouel in "Tory, territorial" the saim az in "tawdry"?

The jeneral aanser ov kors iz that sum peepl uter aul such wurdz with presiesli the saim vouel, and sum distribyut tuu vouelz amungst them. But the aanser we wont, whether from kyuriositi, meeknes, or arogans, iz, duz the majoriti ov edyukaited peepl in the South ov England emploi the wun-vouel or the tuu-vouel stiel? On this, the doktorz difer and leev it. Aafter Ellis, Sweet for thurti yeez haz sed that oenli wun vouel iz yuzd. But Sweet's kontemporariz and intimaits, Sur James Murray and Dr. H. Bradley (*The Oxford Dictionary*), Dr. A. L. Mayhew (*Synopsis of English Etymology*), and Dr. J. Wright (*Dialect Dictionary*), hu shood noe if enibodi duz, lai down tuu. On the uther hand, Dr. Viëtor (*Elemente der Phonetik*), tho difering wiedli in uther respektz from Sweet, akseptz him in this mater, and the London skuul ov fonetishanz (D. Jones, W. Rippmann, and utherz) foloe Dr. Viëtor. Kleeerli sum further investigashon iz nesesari tu asertain the ekstent ov the tuu-vouel yuzij.

Tu thoez emploijng tuu vouelz the further kwestion ariezez, whot iz thair vouel when thai doent maik "pores" riem with "paws"? Iz it pekyuliar tu wurdz spelt with *r*, liek the vouel ov "air, there," ets., or duz it okur in wurdz having no riten *r*? The authoritiz hu admit its prevalens praktikali iedentifie it with the furst vouel ov "owed" or "ode." If we begin tu sai "owe" but rezist the strong impuls tu inkrees the rounding ov the mouth, the rezult wil be "ores" without being "owes." The saim authoritiz indikait that it iz absoluutli iedentikal with the furst vouel ov "oil" (see *The Oxford Dictionary*), this vouel being, in thair opinion at leest, veri litl diferent from the furst vouel ov "owe" (oil, *ō*^u); whairaz the London skuul sez that the furst vouel ov "oil" iz the vouel ov "awl" or "loll," i.e. that we shal striek "oil" if we begin tu sai "awl" and proseed tu sai "ill." Sweet, tho iedentifying "lord" and "laud," az noetist, iz so konfident that "oil" beginz between "Maud" and "mood," liek "owe," that he maiks it the tiep wurd for geting a pyur *o* sound (*Sounds of English*, 1908). Thoez hu hav the tuu vouelz under diskushon shood thairfor iesolait the furst vouel ov thair "oil" and kompair it with thair "ore" az wel az with the jeneral undispyuted "awe" and "owe." Fienali, thoez hu hav oenli the wun-vouel stiel wil fiend the mising vouel in the French "or, port, sort, bord, dortoir," whether the formaishon ov the vouel in theez wurdz be that staited bi Dr. Viëtor (*op. cit.*) and M. Passy (*Sounds of French*) or bi Sweet (*Primer of Phonetics*).

Revurting tu the lists, I noetist the omishon ov wel noen pairz : "forge" and "gorge" or "George," "adorn" and "ornament"; "fort" and "fortify" mai aulso be kompaird.

JAMES ALDERSON.

Orthographical Exercises: in a series of Moral Letters. To which is added a Selection of Essays, &c., from the best English Writers. By James Alderson, Master of the English Academy, Ashford, Kent. 1793.

ENI book which goez thru twenti edishonz in thurty-fiev yearz, and iz stil being reprinted at the aij ov seventi, must hav been in konstant demaand; yet the modern reeder wil fail tu understand whi eeven the furst edishon ov this litl wurk woz ever egzausted. The *Moral Letters* ar tipikal produkts ov the eera which aulso prodyust *Sandford and Merton*, and moest ov the esaiz ar fit kompanyonz for them, tho a fyu stand in a diferent kategori.

Haply the akkuzing anjel mite appere to delivur in to hev'ns tshansery sum tsharjes agenst thee—but depend upon it, the anjels of tsharety, filanthropy, and pitty woud not be far off. Woud thoe hoom thou hast so ofn onnurd, suffur awt to fiks in yondur rejistur agenst thee—oh! no—they woud drop an hev'nly teer upon the rekording paje of thy fawts—and blot them out for evur.

At furst siet this looks liek the wurk ov a speling reformer hu had korekted hiz pruuf raather kairlesli; but from an atentiv studi ov the oepening "Advertisement" it seemz mor probabl that the book woz reali deziend az an instrument ov tortyur, and that the reched pyupilz had furst tu reed it oever in order tu lurn the korekt pronunsiashon and had then tu transkrieb it intu ordinari speling.

Even in the furst edishon erorz and inkonsistensiz wer nyumerus, whiel under laiter editorz thai inkreest apais. Konsonants wer dubld tu shorten vouelz, and the so-kauld "surviel" *e* woz aded tu lengthen them. Thus we hav "akkuzing anjel." But bi this ruul we shood hav "aggenst," whairaz we fiend "agenst."

In the edishon ov 1863 an heroik atemt woz maid tu redyus everithing tu order and konsistensi, but this atemt oenli demonsttraited afresh the imposibiliti ov emploioing "surviel" leterz satisfaktorili.

It iz interesting tu noet that Alderson woz not sufishentli modern tu sound the *l* in "faults"; but this mai hav been an individyual pekyuliariti, az aul hiz editorz insurt it.

W. H. THOMPSON.

With regard tu "fault," Prof. Lounsbury, in hiz valyuabl and entertaining book, *The Standard of Pronunciation in English*, sez: "Bi the begining ov the seventeenth sentyuri the *l* had been aulmoest yunivursali adopted in the speling; but it woz not until the later part ov the aiteenth sentyuri that its klaim, tho sumtiemz preeviusli admitted, woz fuli establisht in the pronunsiashon. Bi Pope and Swift it woz regyularli riemd with wurdz liek "ought, brought, thought, and taught." The remarks upon it bi Dr. Johnson in hiz dikshonari indikait that

the strugl for rekognishon woz going on aktivli in hiz tiem. "The *l*," he sed, "is sumtiemz sounded and sumtiemz not. In konversaishon it iz jenerali suprest. . . . Bi the end ov the sentyuri Walker felt justified in apliing tu its supreshon the wun ajektiv deerest tu the urnest orthoëpist. He turmd it vulgar."

Walker'z aktyual wurdz (in hiz *Pronouncing Dictionary*, ed. 1791) ar that the *l* iz "sumtiemz suprest; but this supreshon iz bekuming vulgar." Elphinston, in 1787, givz the *l* az sielent, in this wurd az wel az in "vault," ov which Walker (1791) permits boeth pronunsiashonz.—Ed.

SUM EDYUKAISHONAL REFORMZ.

Bi Dr. F. ARTHUR SIBLY.

Ekstrakts from the Prezidenshal Adres tu the "Prievait Skuulz Asoesiaishon," red at the Konferens ov Edyukaishonal Asoesiaishonz at the Yunivursiti ov London, Janyuari 7, 1914.

CHILDREN, az we aul noe, difer much in thair pouer ov akwiering a korekt orthografi, but the averij chield spendz, in hiz urlt yeerz, an imens number ov ourz in maastering whot we kaul the idiosinkrasiz ov English speling, but whot miet with eekwal aproepriaatnes be kauld its idiosiz. . . . At a tiem when internashonal kompetishon iz at its keenest we hevili handikap everi English chield in hiz kompetishon with uthar children, and plais ourselvz az a naishon at an imens disadvaantij kompaird with our Kontinental naiborz.

The los ov tiem which our prezent orthografi entailz iz, in mi opinion, bi no meenz the oenli disadvaantij ov this absurd anakronizm. Bekauz the abiliti tu reed and riet, tu ad, subtrakt, multiplie, and divied ar kondishonz presedent tu edyukaishon, it haz long been asyumd that the lurning ov theez thingz iz itself edyukaishonal. This asumshon iz responsibl for the dizaastrus failyur ov our sistem ov elementari edyukaishon. Bekauz a holidai on the Swiss Alps iz delietful and invigoraiting it bi no meenz foloez that the dreeri, hed-spliting, linen-soiling, thurst-provoeking jurni tu Switserland iz delietful and invigoraiting. Tu kaul the akwizishon ov the pouer tu reed and riet "edyukaishon" iz litl, if enithing, short ov nonsens. . . . At best the proeses ov lurning tu reed iz an eksersiez ov memoři oenli; at wurst—that iz, in England—it tendz tu prodyus a mental atmosfeer which iz injuurius boeth intelektuali and spirityuali.

Intelektyuali it iz ov grait importans for the chield tu rekogniez that fakts ar not iesolaited and arbitrari fenomena—that thruout Naityur and hyuman lief everithing iz subjekt tu lau. When this iz wuns realiezd, the habit ov miend which seeks for the reezon ov everithing and for its rezults iz developt, the chield miend reflektiv, moementarili at leest, on aul that it perseevz, endeavoring tu fit eech fenomenon intu the puzl ov lief, interested tu see whair it joinz on, and redi tu snach at the nekt bit ov the puzl tu which it leedz. This proeses ov looking at an objekt with interest and hoelding it in the miend until it haz been "aperseevd" iz not meerli a valyubl method ov gaining nolej—it iz aulso a mental eksersiez, the intrinsik valyu ov which kan hardli be egzajeraited. . . .

Again, nothing iz ov graiter importans than tu establish in the chield'z miend the nolej that everi dezier, everi akt haz its anteseedents and its konsekwents—that no thaut ever paasez thru the miend without leeving on it an indelibl impres; that no dyuti iz ever dun or shurkt which duz not leev the karakter stronger or weaker; that we shal be not whot we fondli plan tu be in the goelden fyutyur, but whot we ar maiking ourselvz our bi our, minit bi minit, thaut bi thaut, akt bi akt in the prosaiik prezent. No infloens iz neglijibl, houeever sliet, which tendz tu prodyus a rong atmosfeer on this subjekt in the chield'z miend, which tendz tu obskyur tu him the yubikwiti ov lau. When we konsider hou plastik iz the miend ov the chield in thoez tender yeerz ov the speling-book, and hou much ov hiz thaut iz okypied with its bewildering

anomaliz, we shal, I think, be unwiez if we akwit the speling-book ov eevil infloons eeven in this respekt. . . .

Whot ekskyusez—I wil not sai whot reezonz—kan we giv for inflikting on jeneraishon aafter jeneraishon ov children this wonton waist ov tiem? Thair iz but wun reezon—naimli, that Simplified Speling ofendz our taist. It *duz* ofend our taist, and at furst it iz difikult tu reed. We ar akustomd tu asoeshiait with the leterz *b-e-d* the sound "bed," and the iedea ov that nest ov linen, doun, and blanket, from which it iz so difikult tu ekstrikait wunself in the morning; but when we see *h-e-d* we duu not rekogniez that the thing refurd tu iz that porshon ov our anatomi which kontainz our brain and which haz bekum, bi reezon ov aij, divested ov its yuuthful kuvering. With *h-a-r-e* we asoeshiait sumthing eetabl—not so with *h-a-i-r*, and when we see them furst spelt in an unakustomd wai we ar puzld and anoid; but, ov kors, it iz oenli bekauz we ar akustomd tu see theez wurdz so that we ar anoid. No wun kan dout that if *h-a-i-r* had aulwaiz been asoeshiaited with a taisti viand and red kurent jeli, and *h-a-r-e* with our krainial ornament, we shood be eekwali puzld and anoid tu see them spelt in eni uther wai. Tu children braut up—az children *wil* be heeraafter—on a reformd speling our prezent orthografi wil be puzling and anoiing in the ekstreem. Hou long it wood taik the ordinari adult tu get kwiet at hoem in the reformd speling I kan not sai, but we ar selfish in the ekstreem if we ar wiling tu entail the burden ov our orthografi upon jeneraishon aafter jeneraishon ov litl children bekauz we kan not poot up with temporari diskumfort ourselvz.

When, for sum selfish reezon ov our oen, we objekt tu a chainj our miend iz ever on the alurt for eni reezon bi which we kan justifie our opozishon tu it, and we ofen groe so urnest and enthuziastik about theez aafter-thauts that we hoeli luuz siet ov the selfish jenesis ov our opinion.

MR. A. C. HARRIS riets: "Pleez aksept mi thanks for the kopi ov *Nurseri Riemz*, with which I am delieted. I long for the tiem when I shal be engaijd in teeching sum such rashonal sistem ov speling, for I feel konvinst that it wil saiv the chield'z tiem, impruuv hiz reezoning fakultiz, and surtinli lieten the teecher'z laiborz. Az a test—raather a severer wun—ov the soundnes ov the sistem, I plaist the book in the handz ov several ov the skolarz in Standerdz I and II, huz aijez vairid from seven tu ait yeerz, and *hu had reseevd no tyuishon in the sistem*, and I woz gratified and sumwhot serpriezd tu fiend that thai red az freeli and az intelijentli from this nyu book az thai kood from thair ordinari reederz, oenli an okaizhonal wurd kauzing eni difikulti."

Hav *yu* seen the *Nurseri Riemz*?

MR. JOHN S. KENYON, ov Butler College, Indianapolis, Indiana, riets: "Mi litl dauter, in her thurd yeer at skuul, tudai aksidentalik pikt up the Janyuari number ov *THE PIONEER*. She began tu reed it without hezitaishon, pronounsing with veri sliet difikulti nyu wurdz longer than those she reedz at skuul. She eksklaimd: 'Whi, enibodi kan reed that! That's a grait thing! A baibi kood lurn tu reed that wai!' Az this woz entierli nyu tu her and the obzervashon kaim unsolisited, I thaut *yu* miet be interested."

REVYU.

Sounds and Signs : a Criticism of the Alphabet. Bi Archer Wilde.
1914. (London : Constable. 4s. 6d. net.)

Rieterz ov detacht volyumz hav a veri unfair advaantij oever editorz ov peerioidikalz, in that thai kan chauk up kontrovurshal remarks on the waul and then disapeer, whairaz the puur editor haz tu remain in hiz chair and bair the brunt ov hiz subskriberz' displezher.

Mr. Wilde'z book iz hieli kontrovurshal, and meni wil be out for hiz blud. He wil be in no dainjer, houeever, from eni reederz ov *THE PIONEER*, hu wil fiend themselvz aibl tu lend him thair hartiëst suport thruout moest ov hiz destruktiv kritisizm.

Tu atak our prezent speling iz, ov kors, ridikyulusli eezi ; but eeven an eezi job kan be wel or badli performd, and everi Simplified Speler wil agree that Mr. Wilde haz akwited himself ekseedingli wel in this porshon ov hiz book. Indeed, it iz wurth whiel tu studi the book for this part aloen, and we rekomend everibodi tu prokyur a kopi without delay.

But, when we kum tu the konstruktiv program, it iz tu be feerd that the band ov the faithful wil begin tu dwindle. Sum wil objekt tu the yus ov kapital leterz oenli, sum tu aultraishonz in the shaip ov moest ov the oeld leterz, sum tu the ekstenshon ov the alfabet so az tu kompriez forti-seven sienz, sum tu the propoezal that we shoold reed aulturnait lienz from riet tu left insted ov jumping bak tu the left at the end ov eech. Thus, thair iz a posibiliti that, air the laast pajj be reecht, the author mai be left in solitari grandyur.

The esenshal faktorz ov lejibiliti hav never yet been satisfaktorili deturmind, and Mr. Wilde'z unsupported asurshon that yuniformal hiet ov karakter and absens ov serif ar dezierbarl wil be moest strongli kontrovurtd. The praktist reeder, az he elshair stait, rekogniezez wurdz bi thair shaip, and thair kan be no kwestion that the iregulariti ov outlien prodyust bi vairiing hiet ov karakterz must ad materiali tu distinktiivnes.

It iz evident, when we kum tu orthoëpi, that the book iz riten bi a speeker ov Suthern English, and it is heer that he skorz so hevili oever, for instans, the Editor ov *THE PIONEER*, hu haz tu be aul thingz tu aul men. It iz a komparativli eezi taask tu redyus tu fonetik skript the speech ov eni given man, but Mr. Wilde duz not seem thuroeli tu realizez the *enormus* diferens between wun speeker and anuther, eeven when thai kum from the saim part. This iz the rok on which moest ov the preevius skeemz hav split, and it iz oenli bi the help ov standerd speech that it kan saifli be surkumnavigaited.

The akount ov Pitman'z fonotipi iz interesting, but Mr. Wilde speaks az if it had kum tu an end about 1850. Had he been awair that it woz stil aliev and kiking—tho perhaps sumwhot feeblī—az lait as 1882, he kood skairsli hav riten : "If the skeem had servied the trublz ov infansi it woud ultimaitli, bi sheer merit, hav syuperseded our prezent sistem." He aulso omits tu stait that it woz oenli the imposibiliti ov deziening forti satisfaktori nyu karakterz which kompeld Pitman tu abandon hiz original intenshon ov diskarding the oeld leterz entierli.

Thruout the book Ellis and Pitman ar braked together az tho thair naimz wer inseparabl, which iz moest misleeding. For oever thurti yeeرز thair vyuz az tu the meenz bi which speling reform kood be introdyust wer moest sharpli dievurjent, and it woz oenli neer the end ov hiz kareer that Pitman began tu advaans tordz the pozishon that Ellis had so long okyupied. The mor deepli we studi the kwestion ov speling reform, the mor we fiend that Ellis haz antispaided us on everi point. Unfortyunaitli, thoez mienz ov informaishon, hiz *Dimidium Spelling* and *English Spelling Reform*, ar so rair that fy reformerz hav been aibl tu studi them. If eni ov our memberz hapen tu hav spair kopiz, iether ov theez or ov eni ov hiz laiter pamflets, the Sekretari ov the S.S.S. woud be pleezd tu heer from them.

W. H. T.

KORESPONDENS.

MR. EZRA SYKES riets:

I shoold hav aded a footnoet tu mi sujested skeem on pajj 45 ov THE PIONEER. *Ir* and *ur* aar aalturnativ sujestyonz, thus: if *ir* be yuzd, the speling wood be "bird, hirl, spirrit, huri"; if *ur* be yuzd, the speling wood be "burd, hurl, spirit, hurri." *Oe* in "poem" shoold be "poëm." This aulso afekts the analisis.

Mr. Sykes aulso sendz us a kopi ov hiz skeem ov "Sonoskript," which our reederz kan obtain on aplikaishon (51 Headingley Avenue, Leeds).

MR. MELVIL DEWEY, Prezident ov the Lake Placid Co., Essex Co., N.Y., riets, in a leter tu Mr. Archer, our On. Sekretari:

I kongratyulait yu wormli on the grait impruuvment from adopting *k*. The nekst step that wil help yu moest iz tu adopt *y* for *ie*. I hav been eksperimenting with this for sum yeerz. It apeelz tu the man in the street aulmoest yunivursali. He aulwaiz pronounsez it riet bekauz so yust tu it in "by, my, fly, dry, sly," and meni vurbz liek "satisfy." It avoidz the konfyuzhonz ov inflekshonz. . . . If yu maik sum sliet impruuvments graitle needed, I shal be glad tu hed a kampain tu spred the yus ov S.S.S. speling heer. The wurst thing yu hav left iz tu aask peepl tu spel "duty" "dyueti." [This haz been given up sum tiem; we nou spel it "dyuti."—ED.] Peepl simpli kolaps when thai ar toeld this iz aktyuali rekomended. Thai aulwaiz asyum that it iz a berlesk. If yu yuz *y* for *ie* yu shoold yuz *iu* for *yu* and spel "duty" "diuti." Sum dai the leterz wil fyuz intu wun with a dot oever the *u*.

MR. ROGER KINGDON, ov Barcelona, iz in faivor ov *c* (but *k* befor *c*, *i*, and fienali and in derivativz) [we hav repeetedli eksprest our opinion on this konseshon tu the prezent jeneraishon, which wood be a burden tu posteriti]; *y* (for *ie*, eksept inishali); *w* (for S.S. *oo*), *oo* (for S.S. *uu*), and *yw* (for short *yu*), *yoo* or *yu* (for long *yu*). He ekspressez dissatisfakshon with the S.S. treetment ov the *oo*, *uu*, *yu* soundz—and noebodi wood defend it az afording an iedeal solyushon—and he argyuz in faivor ov *w* and *y* az representing short *oo* and *ie* respektivli. Thru an unfortyunait mischaans, Mr. Kingdon had faild tu reseev reesent PIONEERZ. Thair he wood hav seen the saim argyuments. This wil aford him satisfakshon, and he wil forgiv us for not printing them again.

MR. J. W. BANKS, ov Sheffield, diskusing the reprezentaishon ov the *ie* sound, sez:

It seemz tu me that if no singl leter in our prezent alfabet wil aanser beter than *y*, we must invent a nyu wun, or, beter stil, faul bak on a diegraaf which, for preferens, kan not be redyust. If we aksept *ie* (which kan not avoid redukshon) thair wood apeer tu be but three tu selekt from—*ey*, *iy*, *ih*. Thair efekt wil be seen in—

<i>eyland</i>	<i>weynd</i>	<i>repleying</i>
<i>iyland</i>	<i>wiynd</i>	<i>replying</i>
<i>ihland</i>	<i>wihnd</i>	<i>rephliing</i>

Perhaps yur reederz wil giv thair vyuz.

MR. W. GUNDRY, ov the Wissa School, Asyut, sendz us an interesting leter in which he kontribyuts hiz vyuz with regard tu our skeem. He faivorz *eu* (for *yu*), *y* (for *ie*), *oo* (for the long vowel in "boot"), *oe* (for the short vowel in "foot"), *oa* (for the vowel in "doe"). He konkludz—yuzing this speling—az foloez:—

I [shoold be *Y*] am delyted with *The Star* eu kyndli sent. I hav dispoazd the too kopiz whair the stoari wil be an indeusment toe reeding. I hoap uther stoariz wil folo, espeshali orijinal wunz. . . . Fynali, for the saik ov praktis, I woed gladli korespond with eni ov eur memberz hoo mai deyzr it about wuns a month.

From Mr. GUNDRY we hav sins reseevd this further leter, which iz a valyubl kontribyushon tu the kwestion ov diegraafs :

Mai I enunsiait a neu prinsipl in S.S., or, raather, suest it for the konsideraishon ov thoez hu ar beter kwolified than mieself and hav akses tu mor books ov referens than I kan fiend heer in the wields ?

"Fas est et ab hoste doceri." We aut tu giv no points tu the enemi. The O.S. with aul its enormitz haz wun real vurtue which the S.S. haz not yet ataind—that iz, it redeusez the eus ov diakritiks tu a minimum (eksept for the "hyphen" in kompond nounz, which duz not mater). This iz an obvius ekselens in reeding, rieting, printing, and espeshali in tieping ; a French tiep-rieter haz tu hav for variëtiz ov *e* (*e*, *ê*, *è*, *é*), so that a Frenchman kan not euz a masheen ov English or Amerikan maneufakteur. The S.S. wood duu wel tu aim at the saim iideal, az I feel shuur the uther memberz wil agree.

If this prinsipl iz establisht, it foloez that, in selekting diegraafs tu reprezent our long vouelz and difthongz, we must rejekt thoez that ar liabl tu okur in jukstapozishon but unkombiend ; utherwiez, whenever thai so okur, we ar driven tu the eus ov the "hyphen" or the "diæresis." For instans, *ea* wil not stand az a diegraaf bekauz ov the egzistens ov such wurdz az O.S. "creation, preamble, beatitude, ideal." It iz eezi tu drau up a list ov aul the posibl kombinaishonz and see which ov them pozes the proper kwolifikaishonz for diegraafs. The fiev vouelz evidentli giv twenti-fiev pairz—*aa*, *ae*, *ai*, ets., *ea*, *ee*, *ei*, and so on. Posibli aulso sum kombinaishonz ov *w* and *y* miet be prest intu surviv. Ov the twenti-fiev pairz I fiend that thoez begining with *a* ar aul sound. We aulredi euz *aa*, *ai*, *au* ; *ae*, *ao* we duu not need, tho pursonali I shood hav prefurd *ae* for *ai*. Ov the uther twenti, eleven ar ruuld out bi the prinsipl staited abuv. For the saik ov breviti I wil meerli riet wun instans in eech kais ov wurdz that diskwolifi them, az foloez : "beatife, theori, diari, diet, idiot, triumf, poet, euzhual, suet, ruin, konspikuus." Thair ar tuu doubtful kaisez, *ei* and *eu*. *Ei* divided okurz in "Deity," utherwiez oenli, I think, in rair wurdz such az "spontaneiti, albeiti" [aulso in "being"]. If "Deiti" mai be spelt "Deeiti," this kombinaishon mai be reskeud. *Eu*, similarli, kumz at the end ov such wurdz az "instantaineus." I see that, in the sekond lien ov *The Star*, "simultainiუსli" iz spelt with *i*, not *e*. If this emendaishon be adopted, *eu* iz aulso availabl az a diegraaf.

Thair remain nou fit for eus az diegraafs *ee*, *ii*, *oa*, *oi*, *oo*, *ou*, *uo*, besiedz thoez begining with *a*, which hav been aulredi diskust. *Ec* haz its plais in the S.S. sistem ; *ii* wil remain az tuu silablz unles we riet "trying" for "triing" ; in eni kais it iz eusles for the purpos ov a diegraaf.

Tu kum nou tu the praktikal aplikaishon ov this teori : *ie* must riet ; *ei* iz beter in its plais (noet the German eus ov the tuu simbolz). But I think the sujestion ov a voekal *y* maid bi wun ov eur korespondents iz best. I see no objekshon tu "yland, wyd," ets. for O.S. "island, wide." For *oe* thair iz a beter substitute, *oa*. In the soleushon ov the "boot, foot" problem I must withdrau *oe*, which I sujested laast munth for the vouel in "foot."

Uther soleushonz ar (1) bring in *ow* for the difthong in O.S. "now" ; then euz *ou* for "boot," az in French and Greek, *oo* for "foot." (2) *Oo* for "boot," *uo* for "foot," or (3) *vice versa*. On S.S. prinsiplz *oo* iz not posibl for boeth.

I sinseerli trust this leter wil provoek diskushon. I duu not miend ("meind" or "mynd") being poot ("puut" or "puot") riet.

MR. OLDFIELD THOMAS, ov 15 St. Petersburg Place, London, W., riets (yuzing *ei* for *ie*, eksept in *I*) :

At laast I feind in *THE PIONEER* a komyunikaishon which I kan reed with plezher bekoz it duz not kontain, and advokaits the abolishon ov, whot iz tu me bei far the moest prominent blot on our speling skeem—the rendering ov the sound ov long *i* bei *ie*.

The plezher ov eni fonetic skeem iz that the wurdz az writen suest the

sound, az iz the kais in moest forin langwijez, so that wun seemz tu heer the sound az wun reedz. But tu no wun duz *ie* natyurali sujest long *i*, eksept when its *i* reali represents *y*. For egzaampl, "pries" (O.S.), from "pry," iz reali "pryes," and iz thairfor instinktivli pronounst az such. But the veri saim wurd with a *t* aded iz at wuns pronounst "preest," the *ie* taiking again its natyural sound ov *ee* whenever it iz not meerli a metamorfoseizd *y*. No unfamiliar *ie* iz ever pronounst instinktivli az long *i*.

Az a konsekwens whenever I giv tu ordinari reederz a pees ov S.S. aul goez wel until thai kum tu such an abominaishon az "skie," which thai furst pronouns "skee," and then ask whot it meenz! Similarli "tiem" for "time," "fiend" for "find," and so on, never kum instinktivli reit.

The natyural and obvius ekwivalent ov the sound ov long *i* iz *ei*, az in "height, eiderduck," ets., and no wun wil ever mispronouns it. Its adopshon wood aulso remuuv several difikultiz which kan nou oenli be avoided bi the *yus* ov a klumzi deiakritik. Thus, "soseieti" kan not be rongli, "sosieti" kan hardli be reitli, pronounst fonetikali; "kweit" iz rediti distingwisht from "kweiet"—whot "kwiet" iz no wun kan sai.

Mai I, then, again urj, nou that the C and K kwestion haz been dispoezd ov, that this impruuvment, about which I think thair wood be litl diferens ov opinion, mai suun be maid. Even yur oen editorial noot sez: "The diegraaf *ie* iz bi no meenz a yunivursal faivorit." I shoed think not, indeed!

[We duu not pretend that *ie* iz satisfaktori; but iz Mr. Oldfield Thomas riet in saing that *ei* iz the natyural and obvius ekwivalent? Whot iz the prezent valyu ov *ei*? Moest freekwentli it haz the valyu ov S.S. *ai*—e.g., in "rein, vein, skein, veil, deign, feign, reign, eight, freight, neigh, weigh(t), sleigh." It is S.S. *ee* in "ceiling, receive, seize," ets.; *e* in "heifer." We hav S.S. *air* in "heir, their"; S.S. *eer* in "weir, weird"; *i* in "foreign, forfeit," ets. The oenli komon nativ wurd in which *ei* haz the valyu ov S.S. *ie*, and no uther, iz "height," and thair it needz the suport ov *gh*! The wurd "sleight" iz rair, "either, neither" ar aulso pronounst "eether, neether"; "eider" iz a boroed wurd, so ar "gneiss, Zeitgeist," ets. We aulso hav it in sum wurdz from the Greek, such az "eidolon, kaleidoscope," whair we pronouns the *ei* aafter the German fashon. Niether in ainshtent nor in modern Greek haz *ei* this valyu.

It seemz tu us that sumthing miet be sed for yuzing *ei* in plais ov S.S. *ai*; but it iz not obvius tu us whi it shoed be konsiderd the natyural ekwivalent ov S.S. *ie*. We ar, indeed, inkliend tu regard with mor faivor the sujestion that *y* shoed be given a trial with this valyu—it wood not be oeverwurkt if at the saim tiem we tried *eu* in plais ov *yu*.]

MR. J. M. S. HUGHES, ov Lostwithiel, Cornwall, riets:

I hav not yet seen eni referens in THE PIONEER tu the Irish pronounsaishon ov English. Iz it not sumtiemz staited that the pyurest English iz spoeken in Dublin?

Yes, we hav ofen hurd it staited. The aanser iz anuther kwestion: "Whot iz the definishon ov 'pyur English'?" And az that kwestion haz never been satisfaktoriili aanserd, we ar driven wuns again tu plead for a Konferens on Standard Speech.

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 9231.

OUR Onorari Sekretari, Mr. William Archer, haz krost the Atlantic in order tu be prezant at the Anyual Meeting ov the Simplified Speling Bord ov America. He talks with him the veri hartiest greetings tu the grait sister sosiëti and

an invitaishon tu send delegaits tu a konferens tu be held nekt September in London. Both sosiëtiz hav gaind much valyubl ekspeeriens dyuring the three yearz that hav elapst sins the laast Konferens. It iz not unliekli that the problem ov a standerd speech wil okyupie a good deel ov atenshon.

MR. SYDNEY WALTON, hu haz been the Sekretari ov our Sosiëti sins the begining ov 1912, haz aksepted a veri good apointment with an eminent publishing furm, and hiz plais wil be fild bi Mr. Frank Thornley. We need not tel our reederz hou much the Sosiëti oez tu Mr. Walton. He kaim tu us bekauz our wurk apeeld tu hiz iidealizm. Az an iidealist he haz karid it on, and at the saim tiem az a man ov sound biznes kapasiti. Hiz nolej ov edyukaishon and hiz insiet intu jurnalizm, hiz literari kultuur and hiz keen sens ov hyumor, hiz unfailing takt and kurtesi—aul fited him admirabli for our wurk. We ar glad that he haz helpt us dyuring the strenyuus tiem ov our urlu kampainz; we ar glad that he haz taiken another step forwerd in whot we ar shuur iz a brilliant kareer, and we ar veri glad that he wil kontinyu tu help us az a member ov the Komiti.

MR. FRANK THORNLEY bringz tu the wurk a vairid ekspeeriens which wil enaibl him tu pik up the thredz kwikli and tu perform the meni dyutiz ov an efisient Sekretari ov the S.S.S. redili and with enthyuziazm. He took hiz degree at the Victoria Yunivursiti, Manchester. For fiev yearz he held the poest ov "classics master" at the Boulevard Municipal Secondary School, Hull, and for the laast tuu yearz he haz been lektuyring in the Department ov Edyukaishon ov Birmingham Yunivursiti, whair hiz wurk woz larjli konsurnd with the theori and praktis ov elokyushon. He haz aulso dun yusful wurk az a journalist. We welkum him hartili, and kan ofer him no beter wish than that he mai wurthili foloe in the footsteps ov Mr. Sydney Walton.

DR. C. P. G. SCOTT, the Sekretari ov the Simplified Speling Bord, haz sent an admirabl leter tu the editor ov the Amerikan jurnal "Science," on "Scientific Men and Phonetic Spelling," from which we taik the foloing paragraaf, transkrieibing it in S.S.: "Even in the much simpler mater ov a moderniezd speling ov English, we fiend the siëntifik jurnalz hoelding aluuf from the siëntifik vuu and klinging tu an unsiëntifik and medieeval speling, whiel, nevertheles, in thair kolumz we fiend frekwent jiebz or jabz at uther medieeval syuperstishonz and at uther popyular erorz. Yet neerli wun-forth ov the men hu ar rekordd in Dr. Cattell's biografik dikshonari, *American Men of Science*, in the furst edishon, siend a kard agreing tu yuz sum simplified spelingz, and thairbi gaiv the iedea the valyu ov thair apruual. No dout thai stil cherish the saim sentiments. In fakt, sum ov them cherish theez sentiments so fondli that thai ar hoeli unwiling tu part with them or tu shair them with the publik; so thai rap themselvz in thair intelektual integriti, poot oever that the kloek ov siëntifik orthodoksi, and goe about disgiezd az harmles men. And the direktorz ov siëntifik sosiëtiz and instityushonz sit and duu liekwiez. Then thai ariez and print priti thingz about siëns and proegres."

WE regret tu rekord the deth ov wun ov our oeldest memberz, the Rev. J. B. Ansted, hu paast awai on March 19, in hiz nienti-forth year. He woz aulwaiz keenli interested in the subjekt ov speling reform, and gaiv much kiendli enkuriement tu our Sosiëti.

"WE ar in hoeps ov geting meni konverts, and I am, az a teecher, bekuming mor and mor surtin that a chainj in speling iz wun ov the fyv waiz in which we kan eekonomiez tiem dyuring skuul ourz."—K. VIOLET MOORE, Manchester Hie Skuul for Gurlz.

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PRES KUTINGZ OV THE MUNTH.

Februari.

LETETZ AND ARTIKLZ ON SPELING REFORM wer printed in the foloing Indian and Koloenial paiperz:—*Advocate of India*, *Empire*, *Indian Daily News*, *Madras Mail*, *Adelaide Register*, *Melbourne Leader*, *South Pacific Mail*.

March.

SPESHAL ARTIKLZ ("Our Absurd Speling," "Revieual ov English," "The Printer and Speling," "The Vekst Kwestion ov Speling," and "Yuniformiti ov Pronunsiashon") wer printed in: *Birmingham Evening Dispatch*, *Birmingham Gazette*, *Journal of Education*, *Kirkcudbrightshire Advertiser*, *Monmouthshire Evening Post*, *Morecambe Times*, *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, *Northern Echo*, *Southampton Times*, *Taunton School Journal*, *The Printers' Engineer*, *Western Morning News*.

LETETZ IN ADVOKASI OV REFORM apeerd in: *Border Standard*, *Educational Times*, *Globe*, *Liverpool Echo*, *Newcastle Journal*, *North Wales Weekly News*, *Schoolmaster*, *Stroud News*.

SPELING WOZ MENSHOND IN ARTIKLZ AND NOETS printed in: *Answers*, *Birmingham Weekly Mail*, *Bristol Times and Mirror*, *Daily Chronicle*, *Educational News*, *Glasgow News*, *Ideas*, *Journal of Education*, *Leicester Post*, *Manchester Evening News*, *New Age*, *North Riding News*, *Standard*, *Yorkshire Observer*.

LEKTYURZ ON SPELING REFORM wer reported in: *Bristol Times*, *Manchester Weekly Times*, *Western Daily Mercury*, *Western Press*.

EKSTRAKTS FROM *Nurseri Riemz and Simpl Poëmez*, THE PIONEER, and *Simplified Spelling: an Appeal to Common Sense* wer given in the *Birmingham Weekly Post*, *Bucks Herald*, *Streatham News*, and the *Medical Officer*.

EDITORIAL NOET.

THE PIONEER iz publisht everi munt, eksept for tuu munt in the sumer. The Editor's adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

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Memberz ar urjd tu aple for leeflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosiati. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent bi the Sekretari ov the Simplified Speling Sosiati, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

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